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Specimen record of Black-whiskered Vireo *Vireo altiloquus* in Peru is erroneous

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The Black-whiskered Vireo *Vireo altiloquus* breeds in coastal areas of southern Florida, USA, south through the Caribbean to islands off the coast of Venezuela, and winters in Amazonian Brazil; the true geographic extent of its wintering area, however, is poorly known (see Remsen 2001).

Some literature includes "Peru" or "northeastern Peru" as part of the non-breeding distribution of *Vireo altiloquus* (e.g. Ridgely & Tudor 1989, Parker *et al.* 1996). Recent authors appear to have followed Zimmer (1941), who accepted a Peru record for *Vireo altiloquus barbatulus* on the base of an entry in Gadow (1883) for a specimen of *Vireo calidris b. V. barbatula* taken by Hauxwell at Chamicuros; Chamicuros is a site in the Peruvian portion of the Amazon basin, now in the department of Loreto (Stephens & Traylor 1983). The Hauxwell specimen was received at the then British Museum (Natural History) (now The Natural History Museum, Tring) from the Gould Collection (Gadow's specimen h; page 294). Zimmer did not examine the Chamicuros specimen himself; he accepted Gadow's reported identification ("Both *chivi* and *olivaceus* [including *flavoviridis*] were known to Gadow ... and it is not likely that a specimen of either would have been identified as *barbatulus*"). Zimmer merely updated the nomenclature from *Vireo calidris* (as used by Gadow and other authors of that period) to *Vireo altiloquus* (modern usage), and speculated as to which subspecies of *altiloquus* the Chamicuros specimen might represent.

There are no subsequent specimen records of *Vireo altiloquus* for Peru. The Chamicuros specimen stands out as particularly odd in that there also are no records of this species for Ecuador (Ridgely & Greenfield 2001) nor for Amazonian Colombia (Hilty & Brown 1986).

One of us (PS) re-located what we believe to be the Chamicuros specimen that Gadow reported as the Chamicuros record of *Vireo altiloquus*. This specimen, BMNH

reg. No. 1881.5.1.2197, was taken at Chamicuros by Hauxwell and was received from the Gould Collection; it also carries a specimen label from the Gould Collection on which it is identified as *Vireo barbatula*. In all respects these details conform to those of the specimen reported on by Gadow as "*Vireo calidris* b *V. barbatula*." The specimen is *not* an example of a Black-whiskered Vireo, however, but clearly is a Yellow-green Vireo *Vireo flavoviridis*, a common migrant to Peru. Indeed, other labels on this specimen carry the correct identification and the specimen is housed among the series of *V. flavoviridis*. Additional data on this specimen are that it is labelled as a male and the date of collection is "IX/52 [September 1852]".

We are baffled that Gadow (1883) published this specimen with an incorrect identification, especially as he was clearly familiar with *Vireo flavoviridis* and reported another specimen from Peru under that name. Nonetheless, there is no specimen evidence that *Vireo altiloquus* occurs in Peru (or anywhere else, to our knowledge, in the western Amazon Basin). Paynter (1995) cited Pearson (1980) as the basis for the occurrence of *Vireo altiloquus* in the department of Ucayali, central Peru. Pearson included *Vireo altiloquus* in his Table 1 (pages 276-278). This table, however, is not a site list but rather is a generalized list of "long-range migrants in Amazonian Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia". *Vireo altiloquus* does not appear in Pearson's census data on migrants at Yarinacocha, in the department of Ucayali, Peru (Pearson's Table 2: page 28), nor is it listed from Yarinacocha by O'Neill & Pearson (1974). Therefore, we see no reason to include Peru in the range of Black-whiskered Vireo.

Acknowledgments

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A revision of the type specimens of the Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus* (Caprimulgidae)

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The Spotted Nightjar is one of two Australian *Eurostopodus* nightjars and is the most widespread, occurring over much of the continent west of the Great Dividing Range (Cleere 1998, 1999, Higgins 1999, Holyoak 2001). Anomalies within the nomenclature of this nightjar were corrected by Hartert (1892) and later by Schodde & Mason (1981), who determined that the specific name should be *argus* rather than *guttatus*, with the latter becoming a synonym of the White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*, the other Australian *Eurostopodus* species.

Hartert (1892) described *Eurostopodus argus* and listed sixteen specimens deposited in The Natural History Museum, Tring, which therefore became the type material of the species. The specimens were not identified with their museum registration numbers, but were allocated a letter of the alphabet, followed by their collection locality and origin. Mathews (1918) selected specimen e as the type of *Eurostopodus argus*, an adult collected by Captain Sturt in South Australia, which he further designated as being from New South Wales, but incorrectly so (Schodde & Mason 1997). Warren (1966) listed BMNH 1888.10.3.16 as a syntype (which is either specimen h or i in Hartert's List) and stated that several other syntypes were in the collection. Schodde & Mason (1997) quoted specimen e, BMNH no. unspecified, as the lectotype and then stated that BMNH 1888.10.3.16 and all other BMNH specimens listed by Hartert (1892) were paralectotypes.

A new examination of the *Eurostopodus argus* material deposited in The Natural History Museum, Tring, reveals that Hartert (1892) clearly made some errors in documenting all of the specimens before him and that not all specimens listed in his